

REMARKS

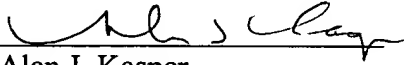
Claims 1-17 are originally pending in this reissue application. By this amendment, however, Applicant is canceling claims 4-7 and 12-17, which are directed to an adaptive variable length decoding method, without prejudice or disclaimer to their further prosecution in companion divisional reissue application S.N. 09/638,796. Thus, claims 1-3 and 8-11, which are directed to an adaptive variable length coding method, remain in this case. Applicant has filed an amendment in application S.N. 09/638,796 that cancels the claims were originally pending in that application and were directed to an adaptive variable length coding method, in order to avoid any double patenting issues.

Finally, Applicant respectfully submits that the remaining claims in this case are patentable over the prior art for the same reasons given in divisional reissue application S.N. 09/638,796.

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 11, 2002

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 4-7 and 12-17 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.